

Message Text

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PAGE 01 LISBON 06202 101305Z

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 CU-02 SSO-00 /015 W

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O 101232Z SEP 76

FM AMEMBASSY LISBON

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 8484

INFO USIA WASHDC IMMEDIATE

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE LISBON 6202

STATE FOR EUR/WE/KELLY

USIA FOR IEU/MCLAUGHLIN

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: OEXC, U.S., PO

SUBJECT: PROPOSED N.Y. COSMOS VISIT TO PORTUGAL

REF: KELLY/AMB CARLUCCI TELCON

1. PORTUGUESE SPORTS FEDERATION PRESIDENT STATED THAT TOP LISBON, OPORTO SOCCER TEAMS HAVE IMPORTANT OFFICIAL EUROPEAN CUP GAMES SCHEDULED ON SEPT. 29, SO THAT COSMOS APPEARANCE IN PORTUGAL THAT DATE WOULD BE IMPOSSIBLE. WHEN ASKED IF SEPT. 28 OR 30 WOULD BE FEASIBLE, HE SAID THESE DATES WOULD BE TOO CLOSE TO THE PRINCIPAL MATCHES OF THE WEEK. SPORTS OFFICIAL SAID COSMOS' REQUIRED GUARANTEE WAS EXTREMELY HIGH FOR PORTUGUESE ORGANIZATIONS, BUT INDICATED THAT TIMING AND NOT THE COST WAS THE DECIDING FACTOR THIS TIME.

2. GOP AND PRIVATE SPORTS LEADERS CONTACTED WERE MOST APPRECIATE OF COSMOS OFFER AND INDICATED A CONTINUING INTEREST IN POSSIBLE VISITS BY LEADING AMERICAN SOCCER AND OTHER SPORTS TEAMS. EMBASSY ESPECIALLY THANKS DEPARTMENT FOR QUICK ACTION RE COSMOS IN OVERALL EMPHASIS ON BRINGING TOP SPORTS GROUPS TO PORTUGAL. WE WILL HOPE FOR BETTER LUCK ON TIMING NEXT TIME.

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CARLUCCI

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Message Attributes

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